

Research Report Assignment

Background:

“Canada's protracted dispute with the United States over softwood lumber is estimated to have cost lumber producers billions of dollars and thousands of jobs.

The dispute has been simmering for years, but boiled over in May 2002 when the United States imposed duties of 27 per cent on Canadian softwood lumber, arguing that Canada unfairly subsidized producers of spruce, pine and fir lumber.

An agreement-in-principle to end the dispute was reached in December 2003. But it died two days later and the issue has been before North American Free Trade Agreement panels and the World Trade Organization several times. Rulings have usually gone Canada's way.”
(CBC, Backgrounder 2006)

Assignment:

You will create a report which clearly outlines the issues surrounding this trade dispute. Begin by reading the articles and websites provided by your teacher and then begin identifying topics which should be covered in order to provide the reader with a comprehensive understanding of the dispute. Ask yourself:

- What are the main issues surrounding this dispute?
- What do I need to include for the reader to understand this issue?
- How should I organize the information?
- Are there graphs or charts which can be used to simplify or enhance the report for the reader?
- How do I keep track of the sources I am citing?
- How can I connect this information to the lesson we are studying and use the language?

Use the rubrics to guide your research. Begin by looking over the rubric and making sure you understand what you are being assessed for.